

DOWNTOWN REACH CONCEPTUAL SITE MODEL AND ADDITIONAL DATA NEEDS

The most significant contaminated sites have been identified and are being addressed by DEQ.

DEQ has been working with responsible parties to clean up contaminated sediments in the Downtown Reach since the late 1980s.

PCBs, dioxins/furans, and PAHs are the primary contaminants in the Downtown Reach.

Sediment sites that have been cleaned up or are nearing the completion of their feasibility studies are: PGE Station L (1991), Ross Island Lagoon (2010), Zidell (2012), Northwest Natural PGM site (FS), PGE RM13.1 (FS) and PGE RM13.5 (FS).

In-water suspended sediment concentrations are currently much lower than remedial action levels (RALs) being evaluated in the Portland Harbor FS and are expected to decrease towards background concentrations following completion of additional Downtown Reach cleanups coupled with long term natural recovery.

The majority of stormwater draining to City outfalls in this reach has been redirected to the Columbia Blvd treatment plant or to infiltration. The City of Portland has also implemented best management practices in the limited areas where stormwater still drains to the Willamette.

There are no known or on-going upland sources adding to contaminant loads in this reach that will recontaminate future remedial action areas or substantially impede natural recovery throughout the Portland Harbor Study Area. However, multiple sources of lower level contamination can impede natural recovery. Consequently, baseline sampling will be conducted after the Portland Harbor Record of Decision that will further evaluate the Downtown Reach contaminant load to Portland Harbor.

The Downtown Reach does not pose a recontamination threat to Portland Harbor and will not impede remedy implementation within Portland Harbor.

DEQ identified the following additional data needs:

- Sediment investigation in the vicinity of RM16W to RM17W to follow up on elevated PCB concentrations in fish tissue samples collected in 2012 by the Lower Willamette Group.
- Source control evaluation and sediment investigation at the historical Portland Ship Building Co site located in the vicinity of RM 15.5W by Willamette Park.
- Sediment investigation off shore of the South Waterfront CD Greenway site in the vicinity of RM 14.1W.
- Stormwater solids sampling and possible line cleaning in several major stormwater conveyance systems owned by the City of Portland and ODOT.